

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device comprising process of:
 - 5 forming a hardware ID code;
 - forming a firmware ID code; and
 - checking said firmware ID code and hardware ID code and upgrading said firmware.
2. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 1 wherein said process of forming a hardware ID code further comprises steps of:
 - 10 confirming hardware version;
 - confirming a password;
 - confirming a salt;
 - confirming an algorithm;
 - operating said algorithm with said hardware version, password and salt and getting a
 - 15 hardware ID code; and
 - writing said salt and hardware ID code into said hardware.
3. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 1 wherein said process of forming a firmware ID code further comprises steps of:
 - taking software version and hardware version;
 - 20 computing and getting said hardware ID code and said salt;

computing and getting a checksum of firmware file; and

filling in empty spaces with random numbers.

4. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 1 wherein said process of checking said firmware ID code and hardware ID code and upgrading said firmware further comprises steps of:

assuring system resources capable of storing a new firmware;

loading said new firmware;

confirming a checksum of said new firmware;

taking ID codes of said new firmware and an original salt stored in said hardware for computing a hardware ID code;

checking if said computed hardware ID code is same as that stored in said product hardware; and

recording said new firmware into a flash memory according to said checking result, and restarting automatically.

5. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 2 wherein said hardware version is in a format of:

Vender/Product ID	V	C	P	H	R
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wherein Vender/Product ID relates to the vender name and the product name;

V is a byte of vender code;

C is a byte of CPU code;

P is a byte of product code;

H is a byte of hardware code; and

R is a reserved byte for extension.

6. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 3 wherein said hardware version is in a format of:

Vender/Product ID	V	C	P	H	R
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wherein Vender/Product ID relates to the vender name and the product name;

5 V is a byte of vender code;

C is a byte of CPU code;

P is a byte of product code;

H is a byte of hardware code; and

R is a reserved byte for extension.

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7. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 3 wherein said software version is in a format of:

A	B	B	B	C	C
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wherein A is a byte of main version code;

first B is a code for major bug correction;

15 second and third B are codes for secondary bug corrections; and

CC are codes of specified version.

8. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 1 wherein said firmware ID code is in a format of:

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	A	B	C	D	E	F
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20h	Vender/Product ID				V	C	P	H	R
30h	CS	Rand1	salt	H(version(20h-2Fh), key, salt(33h))					
40h	Software Dynamic Version				Rand2				

wherein Vendor/Product ID relates to the vender name and product name;

V is a byte of vender code;

C is a byte of CPU code;

P is a byte of product code;

5 H is a byte of hardware code;

R is a reserved byte for extension;

CS is a byte of checksum;

salt is a byte of randomized number;

H() is a byte of hardware ID code;

10 Software dynamic version is a 6-byte software version code, and

Rand1 and Ran2 are randomized numbers for filling the empty spaces.

9. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 2 wherein said salt is randomly generated, and being different each time.

10. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 3 wherein said salt is randomly generated, and being different each time.

11. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 4 wherein said salt is randomly generated, and being different each time.

12. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according

to claim 2 wherein said algorithm is logical exclusive OR operation.

13. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 3 wherein said computing is algorithm of logical exclusive OR operation.

5 14. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 4 wherein said computing is algorithm of logical exclusive OR operation.

15. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 2 wherein said algorithm is MD5 message-digest algorithm.

16. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 3 wherein said computing is algorithm of MD5 message-digest algorithm.

10 17. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 4 wherein said computing is algorithm of MD5 message-digest algorithm.

18. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 2 wherein said salt and said hardware ID code are both written into said device and stored in a non-evaporative memory unit of said hardware.

15 19. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 18 wherein said non-evaporative memory unit is a complex programmable logic device.

20 20. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 18 wherein said non-evaporative memory unit is an electrically erasable programmable read only memory.

21. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 4 wherein during said step of assuring system resources capable of storing a new firmware, a warning message is generated to inform user to restart when said system resources are insufficient.

22. A method for controlling upgrade of firmware of an electronic device according to claim 4 wherein during said steps of confirming and checking, a warning message is generated to inform user to restart when a checking result is not complied.